

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 An adaptive SVC caching method and system are provided to offload the high processing capacity burden of ATM switches. After an SVC is established in a usual way for a call, it is not torn down after the conversation ends. Instead, the SVC is kept alive for a variable duration (i.e., delayed release) with the expectation that there will be another call request for the same terminating end office during that time. The caching duration is adaptively changed with call arrival rate and call setup delay in the ATM network in order to stay within a delay budget specified by the requirements.